

THE VINCENT FAMILY

Born in South Carolina in 1823, Francis M. Vincent came to Alabama where he met and married a girl named Sarah A. _____. Sarah had been born in Alabama in 1823.

Francis - or Frank - may have been in the Civil War. They had at least six children born in Alabama before the war, but after Appamattox they moved to Lauderdale County where they appear in the 1870 and 1880 census.

Meridian had been burned during the war and there was a lot of building going on at the time the Vincents came. Frank was a house-painter and that may have been a major reason for their move. They lived near Meridian.

Children: (All born in Alabama.)

I. REBECCA E. VINCENT

Born: 1849, Alabama

Died:

Married: Monette

*Jacksonville, Calhoun Co.,
She was a widow in 1880*

She may have lost her husband in the war. In 1880, Rebecca and her little girl were living with her parents. May have remarried.

Children:

Descendants live @ Ponotoc, & ~~Pine~~ Guntown & Tupelo in N. Miss.
1. EMMA MONETTE 1878

II. FELIX G. VINCENT

Born: Mar. 16, 1850, Alabama

*Jacksonville,
Died: March 22, 1940*

Married: AMANDA M. JONES, Jan. 25, 1873, Pine Springs, Lauderdale Co. She was a daughter of Rev. Aaron and Harriet Elizabeth (Terry) Jones, who were living in Pine Springs, qv.

Felix and Amanda lived with her parents until Felix was able to buy the old Warren home in 1878. Mr. Warren had died and on Dec. 19, 1878, Mrs. Sidney Warren sold Felix the East half of the southeast quarter of Section 4, where their home was located, and the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 4, which contained good farmland. Amanda's parents' home was in the adjoining Section 3, so she was able to see after them as they became older.

The log home they moved into on their new farm was a well-built, well-kept home that had bedrooms upstairs. It had been built by the Warren family in the 1850's. The logs were covered by ship-lap heart Pine at some point in time, but it is not known if the Warrens or the Vincents had this done. It was a snug, warm house and had fireplaces in each room. The Vincents lived there the rest of their lives and reared their family there in their Pine Springs home.

At the same time that Sidney Warren sold Felix the 80 acres in 1878, she sold an adjoining 40 acres to H. Prince. Prince kept it until 1895, at which time he sold it to Felix Vincent. Felix then owned 120 acres.

The Vincents were always strong members of the Methodist Church; how could they be otherwise with Amanda's father being a minister of the Poplar Springs Methodist Church, which was about a mile southeast of their home? Amanda had been raised as a lady during the anti-bellum days and she taught her children to be ladies and young gentlemen during the hard days of the post-war years. They worked hard, as everyone else

in those days, but they never forgot the social graces. They had a surry, one of the few in Pine Springs, and they all dressed up in their finest to go to church each Sunday. The sons had fine horses that they rode alongside the surry as they became old enough.

After Poplar Springs Church burned (1890's?), they attended church at the schoolhouse over near Pine Springs store. They were all musical. When the old party-line telephones were put in after Dolph Hughes started his telephone exchange, some Sunday afternoons the Vincents would all gather around the phone to sing. Miss Nanny played the organ, Charley sang bass, they all sang the old church songs in harmony and entertained over the phone for a while, passing off the long Sunday afternoons.

After Sam Bozeman built the Union Church in Pine Springs, the Vincents, like everyone else, attended services there. Sam was a Holiness preacher, but the church was undenominational and anybody could have his favorite preacher come to hold services. The community heard Baptist, Holiness, Church of God, Methodist, even Seventh Day Adventist - preach and they would all come to listen.

The Vincents had Methodists preachers come out from Meridian from time to time. Bro. Dan Yeager, a Methodist minister that had three daughters, was brought out by the Vincents, and they became very good friends. Especially since some of the Vincent sons thought those three daughters were mighty pretty.

When World War I came, the Vincents had three sons that were at the right age to be in the Army. Their sons Ollie, Lewis and the youngest, Charlie, all were in the U.S. Army, but only Lewis was sent to France. They all came home, but Lewis lost a lung in France because he had been 'gassed' with Mustard Gas while up on the front line, so he was never robust after the war.

The two oldest Vincent children, Lelia and Tom, never did get married. With the passing of the years, Felix and Amanda called upon them more and more for help, and it is supposed that in looking after the younger children, they never had time to make a life for themselves.

Amanda died first, in 1933, with Felix following not long afterward in 1940. The Poplar Springs Church up on Fern Hill was long gone at the time of their deaths, but members of their family were still buried there, and they were both buried at the old church site in the overgrown cemetery. The Vincent children kept it cleaned off for years, but with the passage of time it became more unkempt. As black families first started having "brush-arbor" churches where the fine old church had once stood, they started using the cemetery for their own, as well. At present time, Mr. Ed Stennis owns the land and has stopped all burials in the graveyard.

Children:

1. LELIA ELIZABETH VINCENT

Nov

Born: April 10, 1874, Pine Springs Died: 1940, bur old Poplar Springs.
Married: Did not marry, was a dear, kind person who was always there to help 'mother' the younger members of the family. She took over and ran the house for her mother, and was an excellent housekeeper. It was said that the way she ironed the old starched shirts with the celluloid collars was simply perfection.

2. THOMAS PRESTON 'TOM' VINCENT

buried

Born: Feb. 28, 1876, Pine Springs Died: Sept. 9, 1978, Pine Sggs. Me. Ch.
Married: Did not marry. Was too busy helping his father run the farm to think about marriage until it was too late. He may have thought about getting married in 1908 when he bought 80 acres (West $\frac{1}{2}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$)

1978
1876
1908

2/13/10

Mr. Phil Grilly operated several days ago for Appendicitis - Cond. has been of grave concern, now improving daily.

March 1910 - R.L. Ross, Agent, Dept. of Agriculture sent out 5000 pamphlets to every farm in E. Mass which gave 9 rules for fighting Bals. weevils

of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 3, 20 acres) from Spinks Jones (no relation to his grandparents), but nothing ever came of it and he sold the land to Ed Hooks three years later in 1911. Ed Hooks and Tom's sister, Ida, were planning to get married at the time. He may have bought it for them to begin with.

In 1907, his father gave Tom 40 acres of the Vincent land, which he sold half of to Ed Hooks in 1911.

In 1921, Tom bought land across the road and west of the Vincent farm, 40 acres, from Wallace Lang, who had been buying land around Pine Springs for an investment. When Tom's youngest brother got married, he sold the land to him.

Tom looked out for the other members of his family.

Tom Vincent died in 1978 and was buried at Pine Springs Methodist Church. The Vincents had stopped using the old Poplar Springs Cem. by that time.

3. IDA PEARL VINCENT

Born: October 6, 1878, Pine Springs Died: Sept. 9, 1978
Married: HENRY EDWARD HOOKS (qv) 1912, Pine Springs, Lauderdale Co.
He was the son of William Madison, Sr. and Elizabeth Pamelia (Weatherford) Hooks, from over just east of Bailey Store. They probably met at one of the many church picnics or at a ~~one~~ of the protracted meetings that were held every summer. They became engaged and were to get married in 1911, but Ida became ill.

Ida had appendicitis and was taken in to see Dr. Turner, who had the Turner Hospital in Meridian (which later became Anderson Infirmary). Appendectomys were a new thing in 1911; there had been only one performed in Meridian after which the patient had died. Dr. Turner gave her pain medication and sent her home, hoping that she would get better and it would go away. It didn't. She got worse and became so ill that they couldn't take her back to the doctor; but sent for him to come out to see her. (This was very long ago at a time when doctors made house calls.)

It was evident that she was about to die, so they thought that that they might as well go on and operate, which they did, but without much hope. They put her on the Vincent's kitchen table, with Lelia and Minnie standing by, holding the kerosene lamps. Dr. Pace was there and administered drip ether to put her to sleep, and Dr. Turner commenced.

Poor Ed Hooks was beside himself. They wouldn't let him in the room but he couldn't bring himself to leave, so he stood outside the kitchen window to watch. They did a big incision and Dr. Turner, being somewhat inexperienced in appendectomies, had trouble finding her appendix. He pulled all her intestines out and had them on the table, looking for the infected part. He found it and put everything back and sewed her up. She had to lay flat on her back for six weeks while the big scar healed. They hired two nurses to stay with her, each taking a 12 hour shift.

After about a week they noticed a rather terrible odor coming from her bedside. They got to investigating and found that she was all infected and a drain had opened in her back, allowing drainage to seep out. Her bed was saturated and the curruption was dripping through the mattress and making a puddle on the floor, causing the terrible stink. The nurses had been instructed to not move her, and so they never changed her bed nor looked at her back. It was a miserable, but she did finally recover.

a miracle, but she did recover. The fact that she bursted and drained probably saved her life in those days before antibiotics. The surgery left her with a long diagonal scar across her abdomen in which two fingers could be placed with ease.

All through her illness, Ed Hooks would ride his little mule over from Bailey every day to see her. They got married in December of 1912.

It was a double wedding. Ida and her sister Minnie were married the same night. It was a winter wedding, but they held it on the front porch of the Vincent home. They had decorated the porch with potted ferns so there was greenery all around. Both brides wore off-white dresses and walked out on their father's arm as the visitors watched from the front yard. Just as the ceremony began it began to snow and they were married by candlelight amidst the softly falling snow.

Ida and Ed lived at the Vincent home while their own house was being built nearby. Their home was built by Ed and his brother on the land that they had purchased from Tom Vincent in 1911. It was typical of the houses that were being built in that period; having three big rooms on one side with another big room across a hall, a front porch and a big L-shaped country back porch good for shelling peas, collecting farm tools and washing turnip greens. They had a well dug at the end of the back porch near the kitchen door.

The house was painted white outside, but the inside of the house, with its high ceilings, was never painted. They had Ida's Uncle Wash Jones build a picket fence around the front yard, which was also painted white. Uncle Wash had something of a mental problem ever since he had been in the Civil War in that he couldn't stand to be around people very well, but he was still a good carpenter. He made all the pickets in the fence level and of uniform size.

Ida still had not regained her strength and had to take it easy during the time that their house was being built. She liked to take her needlework to do while she sat and watched the men as they worked. Ed, knowing that she was allergic to Poison Oak, very carefully removed all that he could find growing about the place so she wouldn't come into any contact with the vine. He passed by her going into the house and on impulse, placed his hands on either side of her face and kissed her. You guessed it - her entire face broke out in a rash.

Ida and Ed lived in their house the rest of their lives and raised three children. They were active in community affairs and were always ready to help out their neighbors, but Ed wasn't a church-goer. He thought that a fellow could be a good person without going to church all the time. But their children attended Pine Springs Methodist Church and took an active part.

Children: (More detail listed under Hooks family)

- A. ETHEL M. HOOKS 1912-1912, Infant.
- B. EDNA PEARL HOOKS 1915- , m. Robert Lamar McDonald. Built home on old Vincent farm where she now resides.
- C. CHARLES LESTER HOOKS 1917- , Unmarried. Was in World War II.
- D. LOUIE VINCENT HOOKS 1919-1948, Unmarried.

4. FRANCIS "FRANK" AARON VINCENT

Born: Dec. 12, 1880, Pine Springs Died: Sept. 8, 1948, Meridian.
Married: EDNA MORROW (b. 1900) of Andrew's Chapel, Lauderdale Co.

FRANK & Edna
 moved back to P.S.
 during depression when he
 lost his job, lived
 in his car then
 moved to the Lane.
 Moved back to Meridian
 when bad times
 started up.

Frank married in the spring of 1913, and got his Uncle Wash Jones to build a house on 40 acres that was in the northwest quarter of Section 4. He had bought the land from his father in January of 1911. He was thirty years old when he married and he moved into his new house before it was finished. He lived there and they had three children born in the house before he sold it in 1922 and moved his family to Marion. For some reason, he never did finish the house. Jake and Ebby Smith bought his house and land in 1922 and they finished up the house, and Miss Ebby still lives there at this writing.

Frank and Edna moved from Marion to Meridian, where Frank died in 1948 at the age of 68. Edna later remarried several times. Her 3rd Children:

- A. GLADYS VINCENT 1918-1848, m. Gene Merritt, son of J. Frank and Roseanna Merritt, who are bur. at Pine Springs. Gladys was killed in an auto. accident in 1948. Had 3 children.
- B. FRANK VINCENT, JR. 1920, m. Bonnie Davis, drove a truck for Troy Laundry in Meridian.
- C. JOHN MORRIS VINCENT 19__- m. Francis Callicuck, was a Meridian fireman.
- D. JAMES VINCENT 19__- m. Ann Murdock, is Meridian Insurance man.
- E. RAY VINCENT 19__- m. Olive ___, works for US Post Office, Irving, Texas.

5. NANNIE VIOLA VINCENT

Born: Oct. 29, 1883, Pine Springs Died: Nov. 2, 1941
 Married: Did not marry. Played the old pump organ at the Union Church in Pine Springs. As a young girl she was interested in one of the Methodist preachers that came out from Meridian to preach, but then she got crippling Rheumatoid Arthritis and life seemed to stop for her. The disease took its toll and the last years of her life she spent in a chair, faithfully tended by her older sister, Lelia. Miss Nannie was always pleasant in spite of her great suffering. She lived to be 58 years old and was buried at the old Poplar Springs Cemetery in Pine Springs.

6. MINNIE AMANDA VINCENT

Born: June 2, 1886, Pine Springs Died: April 11, 1958
 Married: Joseph Andrew Townsend, son of John Andrew "Sigh" and Sarah (White) Townsend of Pine Springs, qv.
 Minnie and Ida were married in a double ceremony at the Vincent home in Pine Springs in 1912, account of wedding already given. The Townsends lived on the Pine Springs Road about two miles south of the store and church., in Section 16. They were farmers.

Children: (More details listed under Townsend family history)

- A. DARRON ELBERT TOWNSEND
- B. THOMAS MABRA TOWNSEND 1915-
- C. SADIE LOUISE TOWNSEND 1917- m. Jesse M. Baker
- D. ANNIE PEARL TOWNSEND 1919- m. Lamar Smith
- E. JAMES HOWARD TOWNSEND 1921, m. Frances Cornelia Witt

7. JAMES OLIVER "OLIE" VINCENT

Born: Apr. 30, 1889, Pine Springs Died: Dec. 24, 1923
 Married: Mollie Denton, dau. of William Denton.
 Ollie was in US Army in World War I, but was not sent overseas.

After the war, Ollie married Miss Denton (b 1895) and went to work for a stave mill, where he cut his hand pretty badly. They took him to Rush Hospital where old Dr. Anderson gave him an anesthetic to suture his hand, which caused his ear-drums to burst. They called in Dr. Bounds who operated on his ears. One of his ears developed gangrene and Ollie died a week later.

Mollie, his widow, later married Rev. James Morgan and had two children.

8. LEWIS FELIX VINCENT

Born: June 14, 1892, Pine Springs Died: March 22, 1941
Married: FLORENCE HUFFMASTER (1900-1940), dau. of Lewis Jasper and Allie Rebecca (Miller) Huffmaster of Pine Springs, qv.
Lewis enlisted in US Army in World War I and was a Pfc. in Co. D, 155 Infantry in 1918-1919. He was sent to France where he served in the front lines. He was gassed with Mustard Gas while in the trenches and he lost a lung. They then put him in Co. F, 312 Signal Bn. where he remained until he was discharged in May 1919.

Back home, he married Miss Huffmaster, the daughter of a Pine Springs farmer, who lived on the east side of the Pine Springs Road less than a mile south of the store and church. When they first married they rented the upstairs of the home of Samuel H. Bozeman home from the widow, Sister 'Phronie' Bozeman. Later they moved to Meridian. They had two children.

Children:

- A. BONNIE VINCENT 1920-, m. Bill Hudson of Meridian, qv.
- B. GUY VINCENT 1925-, m. "several times", now lives Norfolk, Va.

9. CHARLES "CHARLEY" BENJAMIN VINCENT

Born: June 17, 1895, Pine Springs Died: 1982
Married: ADELLE WALSH (b 1895), whose home was just outside Meridian on King Road. Her mother was Nannie Warren, dau. of Hack and Nancy (Chandler) Warren, who had lived in Pine Springs about time of the Civil War.

Charley joined the US Army not long before World War II ended, was a Pvt., sent to Florida where he served in the Medical Corps, Demobilization Group, throughout his tour of service. When he returned, he and Miss Adelle bought the 40 acres from his brother Tom that Tom had bought from Wallace Lang in January, 1921. (NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 9) The farmhouse on the place was a big five-room unpainted house with high ceilings, hallway, front and back porches, and had been built by Thomas Love about 1900.

Charley and Adelle had six children born in that house. It was said that they sent the oldest to college and she in turn, worked to put the next child through school. Each child in turn went to school but was expected to educate the next, on down through the line. This may not have been true, but they all did get good educations during the dark days of the depression.

Miss Adelle inherited land on King Road and the family moved there as Charley and Adelle became older. The twins both built houses and live on King Road.

The old house, vacant, was struck by lightening and burned to the ground, but the land is still owned by Charley's family.

Children:

- A. DOROTHEA VINCENT 1923, m. Norman Parker
Has two children, Norma Kay and Glynn.

- MAY DELLE*
- B. NANNIE CLAIR VINCENT 1926- , m. Rev. Hershel Thornel, lived in Webb City, Mo. Has 1 son, Wesley, living in California.
 - C. MAYDELLE VINCENT 1929-~~1990~~ m. L.J.Irby, lives in Meridian, 1 dau, 2 sons.
 - D. CHARLES B. VINCENT, JR. (Twin) 1933- , m. Mary Ann Chafin, dau, Peggy Ann. Owns Vincent's Fire Extinguisher & Equip. Co, King Rd, Meridian.
 - E. CHARLENE VINCENT (Twin) 1933-~~1990~~ , m. Arrill S. Clayton, has two children, Angie and Todd.
 - F. MABLE FRANCES VINCENT 1936- , Unmarried, Schoolteacher. *Hes 89 IN LAW*

III. ISSAC HENRY "IKE" VINCENT

- Born: Jan 7, 1854, Jacksonville, Ala. Died: 1929, bur. *Magnolia Cem, Meridian.* *HAMRICK*
 Married: (1) Cornelia Alma Jolly, 1878, Laud. Co. (2) Barbara Hamrick
 Came to Lauderdale County with his father as a young man following the Civil War. Married Cornelia Jolly, the daughter of William Eades Jolly in 1978. After Cornelia died he married Barbara Hamrick in early 1890s.. *Lived western MS in 1890*
 Children: (Six from first wife, three from second.)
 1. ANNIE VINCENT 1879-1911, m. William W. "Billy" Moore
 2. CLAUDE E. VINCENT 1880-1939, m. Fannie Noblin, lived in Laurel, Ms.
 3. JOHN R. VINCENT 1882-1975, m. Clydie Velma "Pinkie" Moore
 4. WALTER VINCENT 1885-1923, m. Sarah Pool, lived near Pine Grove Ch. / Martin.
 5. WILLIAM HENRY "WILL" VINCENT 1887-1984, m. Myrtie Louvenia Brown, *dau of 1890-1970* Jefferson D. and Charlotte A. (Pruitt) Brown of Pine Springs (Sec. 33). *MAGNOLIA*
 Will and Myrtie were living down in Jones County, Ms. when they died but were returned to Meridian for burial. (Magnolia Cem.)

Children:

 - A. William Othell Vincent 1916-
 - B. Mary Evelyn Vincent 1920-
 - C. Melton Henry Vincent 1923
 6. BENNIE LEE VINCENT 1890-
 - 1st marriage* 7. ALMA VINCENT 1893-|899, Three years old, bur. Hamrick Cem, Collinsville.
 8. MARY ELMA VINCENT 1896- , Did not marry.
 9. IRENE VINCENT 1898-|900, Two years old, bur. Hamrick Cem, Collinsville

IV. JOHN F. VINCENT

Born: 1856, Jacksonville, Ala. Died:

Married: (?)

Came to Lauderdale County with his parents following the Civil War. Was listed in 1870 Lau. Co. census with his parents, had left home (to get married??) before 1880.

V. IDELLA "DELLA" VINCENT

Born" 1858, Jacksonville, Ala. Died:

Married: (?)

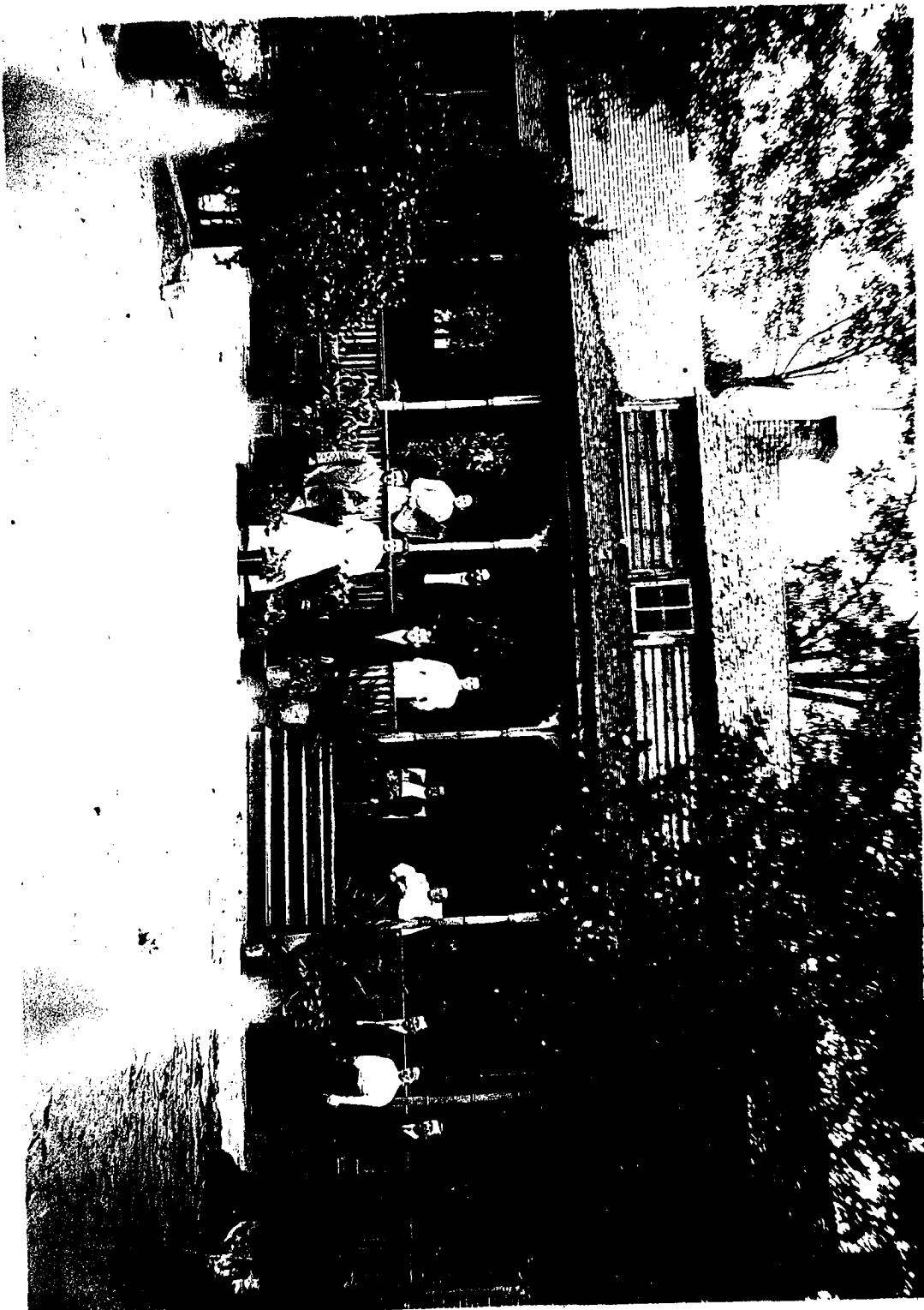
Was listed with her parents in 1870 Lauderdale County census.

VI. GEORGIA ANNA VINCENT

Born: 1859, Jacksonville, Ala. Died: Lived to be very old.

Married: (?)

Was listed with her parents in 1870 census.







Brown

- 1840 Jas. W. — Sara L. Linck
1842 Wm. M. — Martha E. Crain
1843 James Y. — Samy R. Keeth
1852 John — Louisa C. Smith
1859 John — Mrs. L. E. David
1864 J. W. — NORA REID
1865 B. S. — PARASADE JONES
1865 G. S. — SARAH MILES
1875 D. W. — AMANDA KITTUL
1882 - W B Brown - M. F. Snowden
1896 R F - M^e Ratchiff.
1899 W. F. — Carrie Hatchet
1904 A. T. — Jennie V. Powell
1904 E. T. — I. S. Lowe
1906 A. W. — ANNIE THRASH
1910 Charley — Eltha Clark



